

From: [Chris Rowe](#)
To: [Craig Cooper/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#)
Cc: [cwalsh@cleanuprocketdyne.org](#); [Abe Weitzberg](#); [Michael Montgomery/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Jane Diamond/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Elizabeth Crawford](#); [william bowling](#); [David Roper](#); [Kiillkaa Design Studio](#); [Tracy Adams](#); [sharons@socalstudio.org](#); [D'Lanie Blaze](#); [Mary Weisbrock](#); [FX-6 Personal Privacy](#); [Mark Perryman](#); [Michael Walsh](#); [Mike Austin](#); [Adam Salkin](#); [Janna Orkney](#); [Shawna L. Swanberg, PhD](#); [FX-6 Personal Privacy](#); [billie.greer@gov.ca.gov](#); [Nicole Moutoux/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Loren Henning/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [David Cooper/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [Dana Barton/R9/USEPA/US@EPA](#)
Subject: Re: EPA Participation in the SSFL CAG and Response to Renewed Request on TASC
Date: 07/16/2010 07:54 PM
Attachments: [C5SSMACMinutes052709_JYG.doc](#)

Craig,

I just want to clarify for those who are not **aware of** the sequence regarding the EPA **TASC** issue.

When EPA began their community outreach, I contacted Luis Garcia - **Bakarich** as the result of the letter that I received. That was about September 2008. (And if this is a repeat to some of you - sorry. Santa Susana is constant repetition).

I then took this issue to the Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee of the West Hills Neighborhood Council after the EPA **TASC** Meeting. Those minutes can be found attached.

The EPA **TASC** issue was then taken to the full **WHNC** Board for a vote.

http://www.westhillsnc.org/uploads/2009_August_5_Minutes.pdf

"

09-0027 – Discussion and possible action relating to: Supporting Assembly Bill 102,

T.A.S.C. & E.E.I. Education Programs and Policy Guidelines for West Hills Neighborhood Council committees

"

Dr. Wiseman and Andrea Lewis, Assistant Secretary for Education & Quality Programs (for E.E.I.), **requesting the services of the two newly created educational opportunities introduced and discussed at the July 22, 2009, meeting of the Santa Susana Mountain Area Committee. Dr. Wiseman moved that the Board approved sending of the letter. Motion passed."**

At the time of that EPA TASC meeting, I doubt if there were more than 20 community members there. I know that at least three of us had requested TASC.

Essentially what is being said is this: one group - the Workgroup - stated that they did not need EPA TASC. Now, CleanupRocketdyne is making the request. And the WHNC has previously made the request on behalf of all of West Hills.

Why can a half a dozen community members who state: "We don't need TASC - we have Dan Hirsch" represent the whole community who does not "have Dan Hirsch"?

I continue my personal request for TASC knowing that we could use the

independent technical expertise to understand issues that we don't. I have two good examples of this from this week's EPA meeting:

- 1) What should EPA be doing regarding the fact that the SNAP building was previously excavated to 100'? Their equipment only detects to 10'?
- 2) What is the best method of disposal for 500 - 700 gallons of contaminated water that contains tritium?

These are good questions for independent technical experts. I do hope that the community will have access to them. I am sure that DTSC could use their expertise on radiological issues as well.

Sincerely,

Chris Rowe

On Fri, Jul 16, 2010 at 6:42 PM, <Cooper.Craig@epamail.epa.gov> wrote:

Christina -

I received your email below dated June 24th while I was out on vacation. I understand that you are out on vacation and will return on July 21. By this email I will address your June 24th email (re: Renewed TASC Request) and a previous email that you sent to me dated May 28th (re: EPA's participation in the SSFL CAG).

1. EPA's participation in the SSFL CAG. As stated in Item 12 on page 9 of EPA's Community Involvement Plan (CIP) for SSFL, EPA staff will be available to make presentations about EPA's radiological studies at meetings for local community groups and institutions. As such, EPA would be pleased to provide presentations to the SSFL CAG subject to our travel, schedule and workload constraints. Please let me know when EPA may be on the agenda for the next CAG meeting along with the time and location.

2. Technical Assistance Services for Communities (TASC). As stated on Item 12 of page 9 of the EPA CIP, EPA has decided to not offer TASC services at this time, but may re-evaluate this decision as future circumstances dictate. Last year when EPA presented TASC, the issue created significant confusion and disunion amongst various community stakeholders and groups. This led EPA to withdraw offering TASC. Currently, EPA is awaiting the DTSC's draft Communication Strategy for SSFL. We understand that this draft Communication Strategy will be issued by DTSC in late July or August. Upon receipt of DTSC's draft Communication Strategy, EPA will coordinate with DTSC on how TASC may fit into the DTSC's overall community involvement program and we will make a decision regarding next steps. If EPA does decide to move forward with a TASC program at SSFL, typically, the first step consists of EPA conducting a "needs assessment" (i.e. determining the type/scope of technical issues that community members wish addressed) to help facilitate the selection of the most useful technical advisor(s). In the meanwhile, EPA will continue to provide information about our radiological studies through fact sheets, community meetings, technical stakeholder meetings, placement of documents on our web site and via presentations to community groups (including the SSFL CAG and SSFL Inter-Agency Work Group) at their request and invitation.

If you wish, we can have a conversation on these issues. Because two key EPA staff are currently out of the office, the last week of July works best for us at EPA. How about the morning of July 28 at

10am or 11am? Please let me know if this date/time or another date during the last week of July works for you.

Please let me know if you have any questions at this time. Otherwise, I look forward to a continued dialogue on these issues soon.

Sincerely,
Craig

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Craig Cooper
Superfund Project Manager
U.S. EPA Region 9
(415) 947-4148 (ph)
(415) 947-3520 (fax)

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From: Christina Walsh [cwalsh@cleanuprocketdyne.org]
Sent: 06/24/2010 06:52 AM MST
To: Craig Cooper
Cc: Abe Weitzberg <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; Chris Rowe <crwhnc@gmail.com>; Michael Montgomery; Jane Diamond; Elizabeth Crawford <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; William bowling <williamprestonbowling@yahoo.com>; David Roper <daveroper@toxidyne.org>; Kiillkkaa Design Studio <kiillkkaadesign@yahoo.com>; Tracy Adams <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; sharons@socalstudio.org; D'Lanie Blaze <dblaze@jailhousegraphics.com>; Mary Weisbrock <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; Mark Perryman <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; Michael Walsh <Michael.Walsh@sdma.com>; Mike Austin <Mike@BluePlanetAlmanac.com>; Adam Salkin <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; Janna Orkney <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; "Shawna L. Swanberg, PhD" <FX-6 Personal Privacy>; billie.greer@gov.ca.gov
Subject: Fwd: TASC Request - renewed

Still haven't heard from you other than a generic, "we are not accepting applications at this time" response to my written TASC request despite the discussion to have a scheduled phone conversation about this (below) that never happened. I also received no response to fact that I was pressured to withdraw my original request as shown by the documents I sent you related to EPA assuring Mr. Hirsch that requests from our community "will never go anywhere".

I am also aware of two other people who have made this request to EPA, so I must ask the reasoning behind ignoring multiple requests from this community in favor of one person who doesn't live in the community? I do not accept this notion that we should just sit back and wait as Mr. Hirsch who lives hundreds of miles away, makes decisions for our community. I also do not accept Mr. Hirsch as my representative or that of our community and do not feel his expertise and efforts are consistent with the objective of clean-up, as his recent efforts have been to stop and delay work from moving forward.

For this reason, I would like to schedule this conversation (as offered below) to be via webex phone conference so that the others can be included in that conversation. Using webex allows for both conference only, as well as with the online meeting features and we believe this discussion needs to be documented. Please let me know what date and time next week you will be available and I will set up.

Thank you and I look forward to having this conversation with you at your earliest convenience. Since I am leaving for Europe on the 5th of July, I request that this call be scheduled for a time prior to my leaving.

Thanks again,

Christina

<https://ssflcag.webex.com>

cleanuprocketdyne.org

8189225123

The WEST HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL's
SANTA SUSANA MOUNTAIN AREA COMMITTEE
MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, May 27, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m.

at the Fairwinds Retirement Center, 8138 Woodlake Ave, West Hills

(the Southwest corner of Roscoe and Woodlake – enter from Woodlake)

1. **CALL TO ORDER** and **SELF-INTRODUCTION OF PARTICIPANTS** with **BRIEF** elaboration of recent activities, conferences, meetings or communications of interest.

Tom Seckington Jim Biederman Thomas Johnson

Merrilee Fellows Stephie Jennings John Wonderlack

Bob H Albert Sauer Allen Elliott

Christina Walsh Bonnie Klee Abe Weitzberg

William Bolling Adam Holly Huff

Barry Seybert Marie Mason` Jacqui Young

Dan Brin Dawn Kowalski Thomas Eisenhauer

Alec Uzemek Elizabeth Crawford Linnea Lukker

Charlene Rothstein

Dr. Dan Wiseman

Adam Salkin

2. **APPROVAL of the AGENDA**

3. **CHAIRPERSON's COMMENTS:**

4. **Tom Seckington, a hydrogeologist with DTSC for the Santa Susana Field Lab project will be discussing the “Dynamics of surface and deep water flow at SSFL”.**

Working with ground water flow. September Groundwater RFI report coming due in September, 2009. Data not available yet. Project hydrogeologist with DTSC – overseeing the project. Very complex bedrock system with fracture network systems. Fractures are very small and very irregular. Crosswise, diffusion types of water flow.

Flute system – Drilling core holes discrete depth sampling helps define the flow of contaminants. Geologic mapping helps determine the flow of the systems along with faults, shell units, fractures in the beds. Northeast plume is going off the site. Coreholes done every 18 inches so that there is a large sampling. Delta corehole goes down over 900 feet and will be drilled to 1400 feet to find the bottom of the TCE contamination. Three dimensional groundwater flow model has been developed trying to show how the flow works and characterization of the area.

Seeps/springs sampling of identified springs around the area. Not finding contamination in these springs. Characterizations of water shows the origins of the water. A sampling and analysis plan will also be submitted proposing the scope of work necessary to complete characterization.

tseckington@dtsc.ca.gov 714.484-5424
www.dtsc-ssfl.com

DTSC will be going to Orcutt Ranch to sample.

Chris Rowe asked about the perchlorates in Dayton Canyon. Extremely high concentration of perchlorates found there. Perchlorate found in Brandeiss property which prompted an investigation into Happy Valley and Dayton Canyon. Soil and water did not extend much beyond Happy Valley. Current conditions show that there are no more residuals and there is more than one source. The concentrations were higher and distribution not consistent. Elizabeth said that pressure from Ventura Co. showed very high concentrations. Fine grained is silt stone or sand stone content.

Tritium plume in 2008 annual report shows the radiological ____ shows it is increasing. Barry S has 2 wells in his back yard being tested and 2 wells on his street with no data. Doug Sheiks reviewing off site well info done by Boeing.

5. Allen Elliott and Merrilee Fellows of NASA will be present to update our committee on the Santa Susana Field Lab portion owned by NASA. We are in a public comment period with DTSC for the cleanup of AREA II and the LOX area which are owned by NASA. **“THE GROUP 2 RCRA FACILITY - Public Comment Period: April 20, 2009 – June 4, 2009”**
http://www.dtsc-ssfl.com/files/lib_pub_involve/pub_notices/3758_SSFLGroup2%20PN409.pdf

Allen Elliott is project manager of SSFL and part that NASA owns. LOX in Admin 1 and Area II. Air force original owners.

Identify sources of potential releases

Determine if contamination exist (nature and extent and where it is fate & transport).

SsFL remediation scope

Surficial media groups 2,3,4 and 9

Group 2 status

6. W. James Biederman of the U.S. Federal General Services Administration (G.S.A.) will be present to explain the process that NASA must go through when they decide that they have no further use for a particular property.

Wjames.biederman@gsa.gov

No report of excess from NASA yet. NASA is the custodian of the land. Title is held by US government. They will develop a website dedicated to this site. Screen for fed or tribal interest. An EIS will be developed. They will screen for public benefit conversion - (park wildlife conservation historic monument, emergency management, education, etc.

Appraisal is determined by best and highest use. Restrictions can be placed in the deeds.

Formerly used defense sites. FUDS

Disposition process: <http://propertydisposal.cgsa.gov>

federal lands to park program: www.npa.gov/flp

Zoning authority is Ventura Co.

7. Thomas Johnson and Stephanie Jennings of ETEC (DOE) will make a report on the AREA IV cleanup of the Santa Susana Field Lab.

ETEC – Electronic technology ___ center. Still in process of conducting the EIS – doing cultural and historic (flora and fauna and Native use)

Preparing a single document to respond to the comments received last year (750 comments). Specific response to each comment.

Panel discussion on SRE (sodium reactor) to be held later this summer – no date determined yet. Notice will be on ETEC website. Continuing efforts on background study – EPA has the lead on this.

Stimulus package gave them money to fund radiological survey. Money for shovel ready sites. ETEC was exception in that to fund a study. Under the stimulus package, ETEC \$15.4 million for shovel ready projects. Demolish remaining structures if community wants. Otherwise, they will dedicate money elsewhere. Is it safe (Char)? 4 various buildings: Sodium pump test facility, hazardous waste management, building 24 and building 47. Closure plans with state of California. Prior demo plans placed on hold. Money ends on end of 2011.

8. Alec Uzemeck of the WHNC will report on the current status of Corporate Pointe site. There will be discussions regarding this property in regards to recent sampling required by DTSC and an Order for Sampling from the LARWQCB.

Planning Commission has issued letter of condition Moving ahead on construction. Regional board \$1,000 day No RAD report for City Council. Action: RAD report and EIS report prior to (Dr. Dan and Char)

9) Action Items - Motions to take to the full Board on June 3, 2009:

1) A Motion by the WHNC Board to request that a formal group be formed that recognizes all of the communities that are impacted by the Santa Susana Field Lab. This motion will be formalized prior to the meeting and discussed.

2) A recommendation by the WHNC Board that the existing SSFL Workgroup be required to include representatives from the many groups involved in the cleanup of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory. There are only two community members on the Workgroup at this time – they represent Simi Valley.

3) The request for a health risk analysis for the communities surrounding the Santa Susana Field Lab.

4) The request for a health risk analysis for the communities surrounding the Corporate Pointe site.

10. Discussion on the proceedings of the TASC meeting of May 26th

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS of Important Meetings.

a. TASC Meeting – Tuesday, May 26th, 2009, 6:30 PM – 9:30 PM at the Radisson Hotel, 9777 Topanga Canyon Blvd, Chatsworth. This is a meeting with the EPA to discuss getting help from experts to read technical documents.

b. Santa Susana Field Lab Workgroup Meeting - Thursday, May 28th, 2009, 6:30M – 10:00 PM. Simi Valley Cultural Arts Center, 3050 Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley, CA 93063

12. Communication with other concerned groups, agencies, and government officials.

13. PREPARATIONS for our next meeting – June 24 – Fairwinds – 7 p.m.

- a. Chatsworth Nature Preserve
- b. San Fernando Valley Aquifer System
- c. Stormwater and the Los Angeles River system
- d. Dayton Canyon - a request for a new EIR
- e. Orcutt Ranch – is it safe to eat the fruit and vegetables grown there?

14. ADJOURNMENT – Meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.